



## Chillies and Peppers

**A chilli or pepper makes an attractive pot plant**, for a sunny windowsill or warm spot outdoors. Chilli peppers usually start green, ripening to blazing red or even dark purple, they get hotter as they mature. Chillies can be round, pointed or 'boxy', tiny to quite large. They range from mild to sizzling hot.

Pick peppers and chillies whilst they are green to encourage more to grow, or leave them longer to colour up. Chillies can also be frozen or dried.

Suggested pot size: 15-20cm wide and deep, depending on variety.





## There are lots of varieties of pepper and chillies and all are suitable for growing in pots.

Some to try: 'Marconi' - delicious long sweet peppers  
 'Apache' - small, pointed red chillies  
 'Habenero' - one of the hottest chillies. Small wrinkled red/orange fruits.

### Plant



1. Fill a small pot with moist compost and firm down gently.
2. Sow 2 seeds, and cover with a layer of compost, less than 0.5cm deep.
3. Water well.
4. Cover with a plastic bag and keep in a warm place until seeds come up.

### Grow



1. Remove the bag and snip off one seedling if they both came up.
2. Keep in a warm light spot till 3-4cm tall
3. Remove plant, and its root ball and soil, from the small pot.
4. Plant into a medium sized container, at the same level.



**Eat** Cut off the chillies or peppers as required. They can be used at any size, depending how hot you want them to be. Leave peppers longer to develop mature colour and sweeter taste. Pick regularly to encourage more fruit.

# Chillies/Peppers

### Growing tips

Sow in a warm place. When the seedlings come up, move the pot into a light, warm spot. Once growing well, plant up into the final container. To grow well outdoors, chillies and peppers need a very warm, sunny spot. Keep the plants inside until the summer has really arrived.

### Compost to use:

Potting or multipurpose compost, organic and peat-free.

### Watering tips:

Use water at room temperature.

### Support:

Tie taller plants to a short stick if required.

### Protection:

Look out for aphids especially under leaves. Remove with a soft cloth.

### Feeding:

Use an organic liquid feed once fruits start to form.

	Winter		Spring			Summer			Autumn		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Sow indoors	Green	Green	Green	Green							
Plant up plants				Yellow	Yellow	Yellow					
Harvest									Red	Red	Red
Protect from cold	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue					

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